



STEPHEN M. LINSKY – WARD 2 ALDERMAN

FALL 2011 CONSTITUENT REPORT

Hello Everyone:

As always, it's my pleasure to be able to report to you on my service this past year as your ward representative on the Board of Aldermen. In addition to issuing annual reports and publishing notices in the Newton TAB, I periodically post constituent updates on the city's website at: <http://www.ci.newton.ma.us/Aldermen/constituents.asp>. I also hold monthly constituent office hours the first Friday of every month at the Senior Center on Walnut Street. A brief summary of Ward 2-related matters follows:

Newton North

As the project wraps up later this fall, following completion of the fields and parking lot along Lowell Avenue, the Ward 2 Aldermen have requested the city's Traffic Council and the Board's Public Safety and Traffic Committee to hold further meetings so that neighbors, school and city personnel can finalize a parking and traffic plan that will accommodate the needs of the school as well as the surrounding neighborhoods. Landscaping and other site details will continue to be addressed at the liaison committee. Their reports can be viewed at: <http://www.newtonma.gov/liaison/index.htm>

Pedestrian Crossings

Pedestrian-activated traffic controls have been installed at the Crafts/Linwood intersection while police crossing guards are also being deployed to assist students. Later this fall, a similar control will be activated at the Washington/Harvard intersection. Extended curbing has been constructed to assist crossing at the Washington/Lowell and Washington/Harvard intersections with the Washington/Walnut intersection to follow.

Austin Street Re-Development

A citizens' advisory group and the city's Planning Department have issued reports to guide the city in re-developing the parcel currently housing a municipal parking lot on Austin Street into a site that enhances the vitality of the village center for residents and businesses alike. Their reports can be viewed at: <http://www.ci.newton.ma.us/cdbg/austin/docs/6-20-11-final-report-memo.pdf> and <http://www.newtonma.gov/Planning/austin/docs/6-20-11-final-report.pdf>. No less than 85 public parking spaces must be retained. A public hearing is scheduled for September 27th before the Real Property Reuse Committee.

Dog Parks

The Parks and Recreation Commission recently approved two dog park sites in Ward 2; along Lowell Avenue below the Claflin residences, and along Newtonville Ave. abutting the Cabot Park tennis courts.

My Final Term

I have had the great privilege of representing Ward 2 on the Board of Aldermen since 2002. As this coming term, my sixth, will be my last, I am working to ensure that Ward 2 residents will have the opportunity to choose among a pool of qualified candidates in the 2013 election.

Whether it's during my annual fall walking tour of the ward, or at any other time, I can be contacted at: (617) 796-1701 or slinsky@newtonma.gov. I appreciate hearing from you.